

Appl. No. 09/927,206
Amdt. Dated . Jan. 6, 2004
Reply to Office Action of October 6, 2003

REMARKS

Applicants add all limitations of claim 3 into claim 1 and rewrite claim 3 in independent form. Therefore, claim 1 should be allowed.

Since claims 2 and 4 directly depend on claim 1, claims 2 and 4 should likewise be allowed.

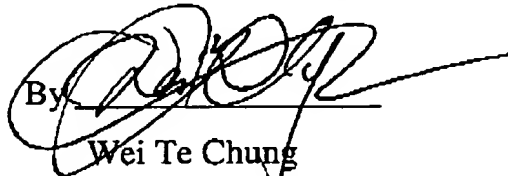
Claim 5 defines the o-ray of the polarized light entering the polarization-maintaining (PM) fiber.

Differently, in Pan, the fiber (25B) in the right sleeve (12) is the single mode fiber (column 3, line 55 and column 4, line 5), NOT the PM fiber. Moreover, both the o-ray and the e-ray of the polarized light are combined together to enter the fiber (25B) (column 4, lines 53-55), NOT only the o-ray.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance, and requests that the application be passed to issuance.

Respectfully submitted,
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